India has constructed seven new airports at a cost of Rs. 74.15 crores. In addition airports have been constructed at Lengpui in Mizoram and Tura in Meghalaya by the respective State Governments. Cochin, in Kerala and Puttaparthy in Andhra Pradesh have been constructed by private participation. Government of India has not provided financial allocation for these private airports. Two greenfield airports are under construction at Devanhalli near Bangalore and Shamshabad near Hyderabad. The tentative cost of these airports are around Rs. 1300 crores each. Airports Authority of India have contributed 13% equity in the project with a cap of Rs. 50 crores each.

Panel on Management of Airports

2183. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have constituted a high powered panel of Secretaries headed by Cabinet Secretary to deal with all non-financing and non-aviation issues like acquisition of land, access, power supply, security, custom clearnace, visas and passports in connection with management of airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the panel has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, by when the report is likely to be submitted by the panel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) A proposal for setting up of a National Facilitation Committee under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary is under consideration of the Government. However, the Committee of Secretaries under Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary meet from time to time to address the issues such as immigration etc. and take appropriate decision.

Airports Megaplan

2184. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved Rs. 40,000 crore airports megaplan;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the allocation for each airport, work to be undertaken, date of commencement of work and the date of completion of work; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure timely completion of work without cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) A plan for Modernisation and upgradation including restructuring process of some airports is under consideration of the Government.

The Government has approved restructuring of Delhi and Mumbai airports through joint venture route with private sector participation. Nine consortia have been shortlisted for this exercise. Out of which one each will be finally selected on the basis of Request for Proposal Bids. The process is likely to be completed in the first half of the financial year 2005-2006. In the first five years it is estimated that Rs. 4220 crores is likely to be spent for Delhi Airport and Rs. 4478 crores for Mumbai. Government has already accorded approval for setting up of new international airports in Devanhalli near Bangalore, Shamshabad near Hyderabad and Mopa in Goa. Approximate cost for construction of Bangalore and Hyderabad airports are 1300 crores each. Airports Authority of India has also tentatively selected 25 non-metro airports for development of cityside and airside facilities to world class standards. For this tech no-economic feasibility studies have been assigned to Indian Financial Consultants and Global Technical Adviser for five airports each under phase-I. For the remaining 15 airports in phase- II Expressions of Interest have been received. Funds have not been allocated as this will be based on development plans and models to be prepared by the consultants. The reports for Trivandrum and Ahmedabad airports have already been received and are being scrutinised. To ensure the timely completion of projects a Committee under Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation has also been constituted to monitor the progress of tentatively identified airports.